

Be a free tax prep

STAR



volunteer January - April 15, 2004

Volunteers are needed to prepare tax returns for low-income workers. Your help means that these workers can avoid pricey commercial tax preparation. Volunteers are needed to provide administrative and operational support at the free tax preparation sites and provide translation assistance. The sites provide help to low-income workers in the Washington, DC area.



STAR QUALITIES:

No experience necessary -- training is provided



A customer-friendly disposition is necessary

An interest in helping low-wage workers claim the Earned Income Tax Credit and other benefits that can increase workers' incomes by as much as 50%



An affinity for numbers, calculators and computers (for those tax preparing volunteers)

Learn about how YOU can make a difference during tax season -- go to www.dcfpi.org!



**DC EARNED
INCOME
TAX CREDIT
CAMPAIGN**



★ **How to be a free tax prep** ★

★ **STAR** ★

The tax preparation clinics that need assistance are:

Community Tax Aid, Inc.:

CTA has free tax assistance locations in the District, Maryland, and Virginia. CTA needs volunteer tax return preparers, translators, and greeters. Especially needed are individuals who are bilingual (English-Spanish or English-Chinese). For more information, e-mail ctavol@aol.com, call (202) 347-4811, or go to www.gwscpa.org/cta/index.htm.

DC CASH Coalition - Creating Assets, Savings & Hope for DC Families

The DC CASH Coalition provides free tax assistance in neighborhoods with a high concentration (35-40%) of low-income families. The Coalition will operate 6 tax assistance centers in Wards 5, 7 and 8 in 2004. In addition to offering free electronic tax preparation and filing services, all of our tax centers will connect families with programs and services that can improve their financial well being. Tax centers are open on week nights and Saturdays from late January through April 15, and volunteers are asked to work a few hours each week throughout the tax season. Submit a volunteer application online at www.dccash.org For more information, contact Colleen Dailey, DC CASH Coalition Coordinator, at (202) 249-1525 or info@dccash.org.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library:

This site will be open from mid-January until April 15 on weeknights and weekend days. It is located in the heart of downtown Washington at 9th and G Streets NW. More information is available from Paul Heimer, ball-heim@comcast.net or (703) 836-3407.

AARP Tax-Aide

AARP Tax-Aide needs volunteers to help prepare tax returns for middle- and low-income taxpayers, with special attention given to those sixty (60) and older. Volunteers will receive free tax training by certified tax-aide instructors in January, 2004 and will be asked to provide a minimum commitment of four (4) hours per week between February 1 through April 15, 2004. Individuals of all ages, backgrounds and skill levels are encouraged to apply. AARP membership is not required to be an AARP Tax-Aide volunteer. For more information, call the toll-free number 1-888-AARPNOW (1-888-227-7669) or visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Homeless Income Tax Service

Volunteers are needed to help people living in area homeless shelters and transitional housing programs file their income tax returns in 2004. Yes, homeless people do work!!!! In fact, according to the latest survey from the Counsel of Governments, about 40% of homeless adults are currently employed. Most of these individuals will get refunds, and some refunds will exceed \$4,000. Imagine how good you will feel handing a homeless person a piece of paper that says they will be getting \$4,000. Eight (8) hours of training is required, and volunteers generally contribute between 25-30 hours during the tax season (evenings or weekends). For more information or to volunteer please contact Paul Heimer at (703) 836-3407 or ball-heim@comcast.net.

Manna Community Development Corporation

Manna CDC provides free electronic tax preparation and filing assistance in various locations the Shaw neighborhood. The sites will run on selected weeknights and Saturdays from late January through early March. Volunteer training will be provided in January. For more information, contact Deidre R. Lee at (202) 232-2915 or dlee@mannadc.org.